



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Resolution Concerning the Situation of Homeless Women in Austin

WHEREAS, there is a significantly larger number of beds for homeless men in Austin than for homeless women, to the point that homeless women cannot find a safe place to spend the night without waiting days, or even weeks; and

WHEREAS, the ECHO (Ending Community Homelessness) coalition of service providers is collaborating in an effort to address the urgent lack of shelter beds for homeless women; and

WHEREAS, that coalition is advocating with the City of Austin to dramatically increase the number of beds available for homeless women;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

- (1) The Austin Human Rights Commission considers the current situation, which permits homeless women to be assaulted on the streets, unacceptable; and
- (2) The Austin Human Rights Commission is in full support of the City Council's efforts to increase the number of beds for homeless women in Austin, and applauds their inclusion into this year's bond package of \$3.8 million to expand the shelter for homeless women and children; and
- (3) The Austin Human Rights Commission encourages the Austin City Council to allocate funds and explore all available means in order to create short, medium, and long term solutions for homeless women in the city of Austin.

Passed unanimously by the
Austin Human Rights
Commission,
August 27, 2012

Thomas M. Davis, Chair